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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/646,984	09/25/2000	Donn Nelton Rubingh	7070	3865
27752	7590	05/23/2002		
THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DIVISION WINTON HILL TECHNICAL CENTER - BOX 161 6110 CENTER HILL AVENUE CINCINNATI, OH 45224			EXAMINER	
			MOORE, WILLIAM W	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1652	
			DATE MAILED: 05/23/2002	11

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

B-5

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application N .	Applicant(s)
	09/646,984	RUBINGH ET AL.
	Examiner William W. Moore	Art Unit 1652

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**.                            2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1,2 and 11-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) 1, 2 and 1-28 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) All b) Some \* c) None of:
  1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).  
a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

#### Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Election/Restrictions*

Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not 5 so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group I, claims 1, 2, 11-16, 18, 20-22, 24, 26 and 27 drawn to at least 412 10 single, double, triple, quadruple, quintuple, sextuple, septuple, octuple, and nontuple deletion variants of a subtilisin wherein one or more deletions occur at one or more amino acid sequence positions corresponding to the subtilisin BPN' positions 70-84, excluding a single deletion at position 71 and a nine-fold deletion at positions 75-83, and compositions comprising said variants, as well as mutant genes encoding said variants.

Group II, claims 17, 19, 23, 25 and 28 drawn to at least 140,000 single, 15 double, triple, quadruple, quintuple, sextuple, septuple, octuple, and nontuple deletion variants of a subtilisin wherein one or more deletions occur at one or more amino acid sequence positions corresponding to the subtilisin BPN' positions 70-84, excluding a single deletion at position 71 and a nine-fold deletion at

20 positions 75-83, and further comprising single, double, triple, quadruple, quintuple, sextuple, septuple, octuple, and nontuple substitution variants of a subtilisin wherein one or more substitutions occur at one or more amino acid sequence positions corresponding to the subtilisin BPN' positions 70-84, and compositions comprising said variants, as well as mutant genes encoding said 25 variants.

Inventions of Group II and Group I are related as combination and subcombination.

Inventions in this relationship are distinct if it can be shown that (1) the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed for patentability, and (2) that the subcombination has utility by itself or in other combinations (MPEP § 30 806.05(c)). In the instant case, the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed because the presence of substitutions in the deletion variants of Group I can render the correspondence of positions unrecognizable in the absence from the claims of any designation of specific substituents at selected positions. The subcombination has separate utility such as screening for inhibitors affecting deletion 35 variants only.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Group I is not required for Group II, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

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Claims 1-28 are generic to a plurality of disclosed patentably distinct species comprising the single, double, triple, quadruple, quintuple, sextuple, septuple, octuple, and nontuple deletion variants of claims 1, 2, 11-16, 18, 20-22, 24, 26 and 27 or comprising the single, double, triple, quadruple, quintuple, sextuple, septuple, octuple, and 5 nontuple deletion and substitution variants of claims 17, 19, 23, 25 and 28. Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species, even though this requirement is traversed.

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, 10 applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

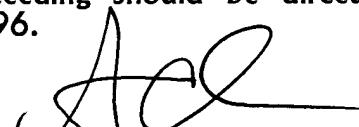
A telephone call was made to Ms. Dara M. Kendall on May 20, 2002, to request an 15 oral election to the above restriction requirement, but did not result in an election being made. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

20 Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

#### Conclusion

25 Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William W. Moore whose telephone number is 703.308.0583. The examiner can normally be reached between 7:00AM-5:30PM EST on Mondays and Wednesdays, between 7:00AM-1:30PM EST on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and between 8:30AM and 5:00PM EST on Fridays. The examiner's direct  
30 FAX telephone number is 703.746.3169. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ponnathapura Achutamurthy can be reached at 703.308.3804. Further fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703.308.4242 for regular communications and 703.308.0294 for After Final communications. Any inquiry of a general nature or 35 relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703.308.0196.

40 William W. Moore  
May 20, 2002



PONNATHAPURA ACHUTAMURTHY  
SUPERVISORY EXAMINER  
RECEIVED JULY 11 2002